

July 25, 2005

Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Dear Dr. Crabtree:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Amendment to the Fishery Management Plans (FMPs), Amendment 2 for the Spiny Lobster Fishery; Amendment 1 for the Queen Conch Resources; Amendment 3 for the Reef Fishery; and Amendment 2 for Corals and Reef Associated Invertebrates in the U.S. Caribbean, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (CEQ # 20050254).

EPA expressed a lack of objections to the Draft SEIS. Through our review of the Final SEIS, we determined the proposed action has not changed. Therefore, we continue to have no objections to the implementation of the project as proposed.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Final SEIS. The staff contact for this review is Matthew Harrington and he can be reached at (202) 564-7148.

Sincerely,

/s/ Anne Norton Miller
Director
Office of Federal Activities

cc: Steve Kokkinakis, NOAA Office of Strategic Planning
John Hansel, NMFS Office of Sustainable Fisheries

David Keys, NMFS Southeast Regional Administrator Office